



**COLORADO RIVER
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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Colorado River Board Members, Alternates, and Agency Managers

FROM: Tom Levy, General Manager, Colorado River Authority

DATE: July 22, 2014

SUBJECT: Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Tour
October 21 to October 23, 2014

The Colorado River Authority of California (CRA) would like to invite you on a tour highlighting the current status of the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program (LCR MSCP) projects on the lower Colorado River in California and Arizona. The tour will depart from the Holiday Inn Ontario Airport at 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, October 21, 2014.

On Tuesday (10/21), the tour will first visit the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (DFW) Palo Verde Ecological Reserve in Blythe, California; travel up the Colorado River to the Palo Verde Weir; and then spend the night in Blythe. On Wednesday (10/22), the tour will visit the Cibola Valley Conservation Area, Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, Imperial Dam and the Imperial Wildlife Refuge, the Laguna Division Habitat Conservation Area, and spend the night in Yuma, Arizona. On Thursday (10/23), the tour will visit the Yuma East Wetlands, Morelos Dam, and drive along the Limitrophe levee road and view the impacts of the recent Mexican pulse flow and see the Hunter's Hole Conservation Area, and then return to Ontario. There will also be a presentation of an overview of the tamarisk project study on the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge which is currently being performed pursuant to a contract between the Six Agencies Committee and Utah State University. The tour will conclude at the Holiday Inn in Ontario on Thursday, October 23, 2014, between 5:00-5:30 p.m.

Please note that the tour has eliminated the program and dinner on Monday night that was in the preliminary agenda, but we will provide hotel rooms at the Holiday Inn Ontario Airport for those wanting to come in on Monday night to avoid the morning traffic or coming long distances. Please let us know, as soon as possible, if you will need a hotel room for Monday night.

Currently, we are using just one bus for the tour, and that bus will be able to accommodate 45 individuals. Consequently, we are asking that each CRA member agency initially limit its participants to no more than 6 individuals. It is likely that each agency will not utilize all of its potential slots, thus freeing up additional space for other interested individuals from other agencies. We request that you let us know as soon as you are able regarding how many individuals from your agency are actually interested in attending the tour. Once we have a better sense of overall agency participation, we will then be able to accommodate other participants as appropriate.

The Colorado River Authority will be covering the cost of the hotels, meals and bus transportation from Monday night to 5 p.m. on Thursday. The tour participants will be responsible for their own expenses getting to and from the hotel in Ontario. The Holiday Inn Ontario Airport does provide shuttle service to and from the Ontario airport.

If you are able to participate, please complete the attached contact information form and return it to Ms. Lori Jones or Ms. Lisa Johansen at the Colorado River Board, lajones@crb.ca.gov or ljohansen@crb.ca.gov, 818-500-1625. We will provide reminders before then regarding the collection of this information.

The dress for the tour is casual. October typically provides nice weather, but it can still be hot. We recommend bringing hats and sunscreen and bringing a jacket in case it turns cold.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please call me at (949) 218-0033 or email me at tomlevy@cox.net, or contact Mr. Chris Harris at the Colorado River Board of California at (818) 500-1625, extension 309, or e-mail at csharris@crb.ca.gov.

Enc. CRA LCR MSCP TOUR Confirmation and Contact Form